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NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Following consultations with the members of the Security Council, the President of the Council made the following statement, on behalf of the Council, at its 3210th meeting, on 10 May 1993, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina":

"The Security Council, recalling its statement of 21 April 1993 (S/25646) concerning the atrocities and killings in areas north and west of Sarajevo, expresses its grave concern at the major new military offensive launched by Bosnian Croat paramilitary units in the areas of Mostar, Jablanica and Dreznica.

"The Security Council strongly condemns this major military offensive launched by Bosnian Croat paramilitary units which is totally inconsistent with the signature of the Peace Plan for the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina by the Bosnian Croat party. The Council demands that the attacks against the areas of Mostar, Jablanica and Dreznica cease forthwith; that Bosnian Croat paramilitary units withdraw immediately from the area and that all the parties strictly comply with their previous commitments as well as the cease-fire agreed to today between the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Bosnian Croat party.

"The Security Council also expresses its deep concern that the UNPROFOR battalion in the area has been forced under fire to redeploy as a result of this latest offensive and condemns the refusal of Bosnian Croat paramilitary units to allow the presence of United Nations military observers, in particular in the city of Mostar.

"The Security Council once again reiterates its demand that UNPROFOR personnel be allowed unimpeded access throughout the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and, in this particular case, demands that the Bosnian Croat paramilitary units ensure the safety and security of UNPROFOR as well as all United Nations personnel in the areas of Mostar, Jablanica and Dreznica. In this connection, the Council expresses its deep concern at the increasing hostile attitude of Bosnian Croat paramilitary units towards UNPROFOR personnel.

"The Security Council calls upon the Republic of Croatia, in accordance with the commitments under the Zagreb agreement of 25 April 1993 (S/25659), to exert all its influence on the Bosnian Croat leadership and paramilitary units with a view to ceasing immediately their attacks particularly in the areas of Mostar, Jablanica and Dreznica. It further calls on the Republic of Croatia to adhere strictly to its obligations under Security Council resolution 752, including putting an end to all forms of interference and respecting the territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"The Security Council once again reaffirms the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the inacceptability of the acquisition of territory by force and the practice of 'ethnic cleansing'.

"The Security Council remains seized of the matter and is ready to consider further measures to ensure that all parties and others concerned abide by their commitments and fully respect relevant Council decisions."